

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, WALTER REED ARMY MEDICAL CENTER  
6900 Georgia Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20307-5001

Nursing Policy

23 July 2005

**Scope of Patient Care and Service**

**1. UNIT TITLE:** Ward 58 Inpatient Neuroscience Nursing Unit

**2. DESCRIPTION:** Ward 58 is a 20-bed ward with an average daily census of 17 patients. Ward 58 provides care for Neurosurgery, Neurology and Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) patients. Ward 58 also services as the primary overflow unit for Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation (PM&R), and Orthopedic patients.

**3. PATIENT POPULATION SERVED:** The most frequent population served on this unit ranges from early adulthood, adults, and geriatric patients who are eligible for care as designated by the Defense Eligibility and Enrollment Reporting System (DEERS) and the Patient Administration Department.

**4. CONDITIONS AND DIAGNOSES TREATED:** The most common diagnosis treated and cared for on Ward 58 include: seizure disorders, craniotomies, and spinal fusions, cerebral vascular accidents (CVA), transient ischemic attacks (TIA), multiple sclerosis (MS), Alzheimer's, Chronic Inflammatory Demyelinating Polyneuropathy (CIDP),.

a. High Volume:

- 1) Seizure and Headache
- 2) Spinal Fusion
- 3) Cranial and Peripheral Nerve Disorders

b. High Risk:

- 1) Sub Arachnoid Hemorrhage patients
- 2) Patients with lumbar drains
- 3) Seizure disorder patients
- 4) Confused/falls risk patients

c. Problem Prone:

- 1) Confused patients
- 2) Falls Risk patient
- 2) Patients on restraints
- 4) Traumatic Brain Injury patients

d. High Cost:

- 1) Long-term PM&R patients
- 2) CIDP patients (for the high cost of the IV Immuno-Globulin IVIG)

e. Excluded Patients/Services:

- 1) Pediatric patients
- 2) Cardiac or continuous monitoring
- 3) Patients and personnel not listed in paragraph 2.

**5. STANDARDS OR GUIDELINES FOR PRACTICE:**

- a. AR 570-4, Manpower Management, 15 May 2000.
- b. FM 8-501, The Workload Management System for Nursing, Nov 1990.
- c. WRAMC Regulations
- d. WRAMC Nursing Policies
- e. Unit level standard operating procedures
- f. American Nurses Association, Scope and Standards of Practice, 2004.
- g. Springhouse, Nursing Procedures, Lippincott, 2004. To accompany software program: Procedures, Version 2.2, Lippincott, 2004

**6. TREATMENTS AND ACTIVITIES PERFORMED:** All nursing activities are performed in accordance with the Scope of Practice and Competency Based Orientation. Common clinical activities include admission assessments, patient and family teaching, venipunctures, peripheral intravenous therapy, blood glucose monitoring, blood transfusions, medication administration, urinary catheterizations, nasogastric tube insertion, tube feeding, oral or nasogastric suctioning, dressing and wound care, respiratory treatment, oxygen therapy, tracheotomy care, chest tube management, vital signs, pain management, epidural management, nerve blocks, post operative assessment, and ongoing assessment and documentation of nursing and medical intervention. Treatments that are specific to Ward 58 include, but not limited to, IVIG therapy administration, lumbar drains, and dihydroergotamine (DHE) therapy for headaches, observation during video EEG monitoring.

**7. PERSONNEL PROVIDING CARE:**

a. Nursing:

- 1) Registered nurses
- 2) Licensed practical nurses
- 3) Nursing Assistants
- 4) Medical Records Technicians

## b. Other Personnel:

- 1) Physicians
- 2) Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists
- 3) Physical Therapists
- 4) Occupational Therapist
- 5) Social Workers
- 6) Pharmacists
- 7) Dietitians
- 8) Respiratory Therapy
- 9) Radiology Technicians
- 10) Laboratory Technicians
- 11) Logistics
- 12) Chaplain
- 13) Volunteers- Red Cross
- 14) Physician Assistant
- 15) Discharge Planners

## c. Unit core staffing plan

Ward 58	ASAM Authorizations TDA: 0202		Staffing Matrix (Excluding Head Nurse and Wardmaster)					
			(MON-FRI)			(SAT-SUN)		
Staffing	Military	Civilian	Day	Evening	Night	Day	Evening	Night
RN	10	4	3	2	2	3	2	2
LPN	8	4	3	3	3	2	3	3
NA	8	3	4	4	2	2	2	2
MRT	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	0

## 8. HOURS OF SERVICE: 24 hours a day